Department of Homeland Security
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 15 September 2005

Daily Highlights

- The Los Angeles Times reports it will take several days to restore gasoline production to normal levels at three Southern California refineries that were hit by a power outage in Los Angeles on Monday. (See item 1)

- The Agence France Presse reports that President George W. Bush launched a new International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza on Wednesday in a bid to limit the scope of outbreaks and avoid a pandemic. (See item 25)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: **Energy**; **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials**; **Defense Industrial Base**

Service Industries: **Banking and Finance**; **Transportation and Border Security**; **Postal and Shipping**

Sustenance and Health: **Agriculture**; **Food**; **Water**; **Public Health**

Federal and State: **Government**; **Emergency Services**

IT and Cyber: **Information Technology and Telecommunications**; **Internet Alert Dashboard**

Other: **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument &Icons**; **General**; **DHS Daily Report Contact Information**

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <u>Physical</u>: Elevated, <u>Cyber</u>: Elevated
Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES–ISAC) – http://www.esisac.com]

1. *September 14, Los Angeles Times* — **Power outage halts gasoline production.** It will take several days to restore gasoline production to normal levels at three Southern California refineries that were hit by a power outage in Los Angeles on Monday, September 12, a snag that threatens to slow the recent downward trend in fuel prices. The refineries were in various phases of restarting production Tuesday, September 13, company representatives said. Together, the plants owned by Shell Oil Co., ConocoPhillips and Valero Energy Corp. account for about 16% of the state's oil processing capacity. If all three of the affected refineries were unable to make fuel for three days, California would lose about 8% of its weekly gasoline production and about 5.6% of its diesel, said Rob Schlichting, a spokesperson for the California

Energy Commission. Refineries are built to run continuously, and because oil components and chemicals are coursing through the plant at high temperatures and pressures, an abrupt shutdown can be dangerous and can damage equipment.
Source: http://www.latimes.com/business/la−fi−refiners14sep14,1,5994
887.story?coll=la−headlines−business

2. *September 14, Associated Press* — **U.S. sells oil companies over 10 million barrels of crude.** The Department of Energy announced the sale Wednesday, September 14, of 11 million barrels of crude oil from its government reserve, about a third of what had been offered to the industry as part of the Hurricane Katrina recovery effort. The sale from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve indicates that oil companies appear confident of adequate crude oil supplies in the commercial market and did not seek to buy nearly as much as what the government had offered. "The sale ensures that refineries have the petroleum they need to keep gasoline and diesel fuel flowing to American consumers while production facilities in the Gulf region regain their capacity," said Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman. Refineries were operating at 87 percent capacity, reflecting the shutdown of four major refineries in Louisiana as a result of the hurricane, according to the Energy Information Administration. It is expected to be two to three months before those refineries, accounting for more than 900,000 barrels of daily production, are likely to be back in operation, according industry and government officials.
Department of Energy details about the sale:
http://www.fe.doe.gov/news/techlines/2005/tl_spr_2005drawdow n_bids.html
Source: http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/business/AP−Katrina−Oil−Sale .html

3. *September 14, Bloomberg* — **Power outages from Hurricane Ophelia.** Hurricane Ophelia strengthened and battered the North Carolina coast, pounding beachfront communities along the state's barrier islands with rain and winds as high as 85 mph. The storm caused power outages to 78,000 customers, said Tom Mather, a spokesperson for the North Carolina Emergency Operations Center. "We expect that to increase quite a bit," he said. Ophelia is expected to bring 4 inches to 8 inches of rain to parts of eastern North Carolina in the next 24 hours, according to the National Hurrican Center. It also warned of possible tornadoes along North Carolina's coast.
National Hurricane Center: http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/
Source: http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000103&sid=aO5ylu2v Uun4

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

Nothing to report.
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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.
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Banking and Finance Sector

4. *September 14, United Press International* — **European Union strengthens response to terrorism financing.** The European Union (EU) is cracking down harder on terrorist financing operations across its borders. "Terrorists need money to prepare and carry out attacks," Gijs de Vries, the European Union Counter–Terrorism Coordinator said in a speech he delivered Monday, September 12, to the International Policy Institute for Counter–Terrorism's annual conference in Herzliya, Israel. The 25–nation EU has recently taken several steps "to make it more difficult for terrorists to finance their sordid work," de Vries told the conference. "Anyone entering or leaving the EU will have to declare any sum of cash or traveler checks in excess of 10,000 Euros ($13,000). Cash that has not been declared will be impounded," he said. "Any transaction suspected of being associated with terrorist financing will have to be reported to a national Financial Intelligence Unit and from there to Europol, where it will be entered on their database and analyzed along with other data to establish patterns of activity," de Vries said.
Conference information: http://www.ict.org.il/conference/
International Policy Institute for Counter–Terrorism: http://www.ict.org.il/
Source: http://about.upi.com/products/perspectives/UPI–20050914–1139 33–7844R

5. *September 14, ZDNet UK* — **Personal data exposed via storage sold on eBay.** Security codes, passwords, phone numbers and home addresses are being found in storage sold on eBay, according to a UK–based data recovery firm. Disklabs bought 100 hard drives and 50 memory cards from the auction site. The company said most contained some kind of confidential or personal data including phone numbers, e–mail addresses, letters and even temporary files created by Internet browsers which contained passwords for online banking. The drives and memory cards found on eBay are normally sold by people upgrading their PC or changing mobile phones. Sellers who don't delete data properly are risking personal and security details being passed on to the buyer. Disklabs said in most cases users had just turned to the delete key to remove data, not knowing that for PCs and many other digital devices all this does is apply a label that says these sections of storage can be over–written, rather than removing the data in question. This supposedly deleted data can remain intact for a long time.
Source: http://news.zdnet.co.uk/0,39020330,39218125,00.htm

6. *September 13, FinanceTech* — **Online user authentication: verifying the new user.** Phishing attacks and other efforts to steal user names and passwords generate a lot of attention and banks must balance ease of use with security needs as they weigh two–factor authentication and other means to strengthen log–in security. However, banks also must pay attention to what happens before a customer becomes a regular online user. Namely, banks need to ensure the way customers register for online access in the first place protects the bank and the customer while, proving not so hard to use that the customer ultimately gives up on the online channel. This article focuses on four priority areas to which banks and other financial services providers must pay attention during the online registration process: registration codes, authentication sequence, error messaging and failure lockout mechanisms.
Source: http://www.financetech.com/news/showArticle.jhtml?articleID= 170702844

7. *September 13, NewsFactor* — **Internet telephony provider leaks customer e–mail.** Voice over Internet Protocol provider Packet8 has accidentally disclosed the e–mail addresses of 21,000 of its subscribers. The data leak occurred when an employee accidentally attached a

spreadsheet containing the e−mail addresses to its monthly e−mail newsletter that was sent out Thursday, September 8, director of corporate communications Joan Citelli said. The leak was a result of a human error, said Citelli. If criminals get hold of the list, Packet8 customers are likely to become the target of phishing attacks, warned Andrew Lockhart, director of product marketing with Postini, an e−mail security vendor. Knowing that the addresses on the list are all from Packet8 customers, phishers could send them e−mail that appears to come from Packet8. The e−mail could then fool them into disclosing confidential information by asking them to re−enter their credit card information or login name and password. "The fact that this list is identifiable as being of customers of the service makes it potentially more dangerous," said Lockhart.
Source: http://www.newsfactor.com/story.xhtml?story_id=38175

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

8. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Runway safety system inadequate.** A high−tech warning system recently installed at major U.S. airports can't be counted on to prevent runway collisions, Mark Rosenker, the head of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), said Tuesday, September 13. Rosenker described recent near−misses in which the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) system failed to warn controllers in time. The Aircraft Movement Area Safety System, or AMASS, uses radar to track runway traffic. If there's a runway "incursion" −− when people, planes or equipment enter a runway by mistake −− the system sends a warning to air traffic controllers, who then alert pilots. Rosenker said the safety board wants the FAA to develop a system to provide immediate warnings directly to flight crews. Rosenker noted that AMASS didn't alert controllers at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport on July 6, when a Boeing 767 taxied in front of a cargo plane that was taking off. The departing plane cleared the jetliner with only 15 yards to spare. AMASS didn't alert controllers because it was raining heavily, Rosenker said. Precipitation, which is picked up by radar, generates too many false results, so much of the system is disabled to prevent nuisance alarms when it's raining.
AMASS information: http://www.faa.gov/and/and400/410/amass.html
Source: http://www.airportbusiness.com/article/article.jsp?siteSecti on=1&id=3501

9. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Continental, Southwest plan to resume New Orleans flights.** Continental Airlines plans to resume flights to New Orleans on Monday, September 19, and Southwest Airlines says it will announce a startup date in the next few days. American Airlines, the nation's largest carrier, still plans to resume service November 1 but could move that date up. Northwest Airlines flew the first commercial flight into New Orleans on Tuesday, September 13. Delta Air Lines planned to run two daily flights between New Orleans and Atlanta on Wednesday, September 14, and then add more flights Friday, September 16. Continental will operate four daily round trips between New Orleans' Louis Armstrong Airport and Houston, TX, a spokesperson said.. Before Hurricane Katrina, the Houston−based airline had operated about 15 daily round trips between New Orleans and three cities. Southwest said that it will operate two daily round trips to Houston. The Dallas−based airline said it would announce the date and times for the flights this week.
Source: http://www.timesdaily.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2005091 4/APF/509140928&cachetime=5

10. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Airlines ask Congress for fuel tax relief.** U.S. airlines once again asked Congress for help Wednesday, September 14, saying taxes and fees imposed after the September 11 attacks, Hurricane Katrina, and record−high fuel costs were pushing some of the nation's oldest carriers into bankruptcy. Lawmakers said they'd consider ways to help the beleaguered airline industry, but offered little in the way of specific proposals during a hearing of the aviation subcommittee of the Senate Commerce Committee. "The airlines have been in crisis in the past, but I don't think I've ever seen anything like this," said Sen. John McCain, R−Ariz. "I don't think we should ignore any option." Both Northwest Airlines and Delta Air Lines were considering bankruptcy protection, which would bring 47 percent of the major airlines' capacity into Chapter 11, industry representative James May told lawmakers. May, president of the Air Transport Association, said airlines want a one−year reprieve from the 4.3−cent federal tax on jet fuel. That would save them $600 million −− not enough to stem the $9 billion to $10 billion in losses they expect to report this year, but a help nonetheless.
Source: http://www.forbes.com/entrepreneurs/feeds/ap/2005/09/14/ap2224897.html

11. *September 13, Times Herald (MI)* — **Vandals halt Amtrak train, disrupt service.** Debris left deliberately on railroad tracks Sunday, September 11, damaged an Amtrak Blue Water Line train and delaying passengers for about four hours. No injuries were reported. The train that travels daily between Chicago, IL, and Port Huron, MI, was disabled, Amtrak spokesperson Marc Magliari said. "They placed debris on the track in more than one location in an effort to do damage to the train and perhaps injure our passengers and crew," Magliari said. Service was unavailable Monday, September 13. The train was traveling near Imlay City, MI, bound for Port Huron. Four young adults are suspects in the case, Lapeer County Sheriff Deputy Mike Tappen said. Charges haven't been filed. The investigation is ongoing, Tappen said.
Source: http://www.thetimesherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/200 50913/NEWS01/509130309/1002

12. *September 13, Washington Technology* — **Gaps persist in Transportation Security Administration network security.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has improved its network security, but the agency still cannot ensure that critical computer network operations and data are protected from hackers and can be restored following an emergency, according to a new report from the Homeland Security Department's Office of the Inspector General. The TSA falls short in developing and implementing processes such as security testing, monitoring with audit trails, configuration and patch management, and password protection, the report said. Also, contingency plans have not been made final nor tested. Computer networks are vital to homeland security for sharing information among government agencies. But they also contain sensitive data that must be protected from unauthorized access and manipulation from hackers and cyberterrorists. The TSA, which oversees passenger and baggage screening and other security procedures at the nation's airports, shares information with airports through a wide area network. But it lacks a comprehensive security testing program to insure the integrity of that network, the report said. While some vulnerability scans are performed monthly, TSA does not conduct "penetration testing" and "password analysis," and does not test all devices connected to the network as recommended, the report said.
Inspector General's Report: http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/OIGr_05−31_Aug05.pd f
Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1_1/daily_news/2698 3−1.html

Postal and Shipping Sector

13. *September 14, U.S. Postal Service* — **U.S. Postal Service releases weather–related service update.** The U.S. Postal Service has released the following update Wednesday, September 14, on the status of post offices affected by Hurricane Katrina: a) Express Mail embargo to ZIP Code 395 lifted; b) The Postal Service is now accepting Express Mail destined for ZIP Codes 369, 393, 394, 395 and 396. However, the suspension of Express Mail to ZIP Codes 700, 701 and 704 remains in effect; c) The suspension of Standard Mail (Letters and Flats) and Periodicals Mail destined for ZIP Codes 369, 393, 394 and 396 has been lifted, but remains in effect for ZIP Codes 395, 700, 701 and 704; d) Drop shipment appointments to ZIP Codes 369, 393, 394 and 396 are being accepted, but appointments are required before any drop shipments can occur.
U.S. Postal Service map displaying the status of Katrina–affected post offices:
http://www.usps.com/communications/news/serviceupdates/zipma p.htm
Source: http://www.usps.com/communications/news/serviceupdates.htm

Agriculture Sector

14. *September 14, Indian Express* — **Fearing stem rust, India works on new wheat varieties.** India is working on new varieties of wheat that are resistant to stem rust, an airborne disease that is causing devastation in Africa. India is vulnerable considering that the variety of wheat which is succumbing to stem rust in Kenya is grown in Haryana, Punjab, western Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan. "In 2002, we woke up to the problem and decided that another gene should be brought into the variety we use. We then sent 22 lines to Kenya for testing," said Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) Director Mangala Rai. Out of 22, three varieties were found resistant to stem rust. These are two to three years from reaching the farmers but the ICAR has distributed the seeds to breeders.
Source: http://www.indianexpress.com/full_story.php?content_id=78107

15. *September 14, Charleston Gazette (WV)* — **Deer disease sampling to start in West Virginia.** West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) sharpshooters plan to blanket the Hampshire countryside near Slanesville, shooting deer and taking tissue samples from the dead animals' brains. Their goal: to find out how widespread chronic wasting disease (CWD) has become in West Virginia. Researchers at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Laboratory revealed September 3 that a 2 1/2–year–old buck, killed by a car last October near Slanesville, had tested positive for CWD, a fatal brain disorder similar to mad cow disease. The DNR's sampling plan calls for brain–tissue samples to be taken from 100 to 125 deer, most of them within a five–mile radius of Slanesville. In order to sample as many animals as quickly as possible, DNR crews will be picking up road–killed deer and deer killed for crop depredation, in addition to those being killed by agency sharpshooters.
Chronic Wasting Disease information: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahps/cwd/
Source: http://wvgazette.com/section/Today/2005091328

16. *September 13, Grand Island Independent (NE)* — **New mobile diagnostic lab first designed to fight plant pathogens.** Crowds at Nebraska's Husker Harvest Days (HHD) have an opportunity to view a new cutting−edge tool to combat potentially devastating plant diseases, whether man−made or the result of a natural disaster. Parked next to the University of Nebraska exhibit at HHD is the Cooperative Extension Service's new mobile plant diagnostic laboratory. The mobile lab was funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, said Loren Giesler, Extension/Research plant pathologist for the University of Nebraska's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He said the goal was to set up a lab to assist if there was an act of agriterrorism.
Source: http://www.theindependent.com/stories/091305/new_diagnostic1_3.shtml

17. *September 12, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — **New wood packaging import requirements enforced.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Monday, September 12, announced that it will enforce new requirements for wood packaging material (e.g., wooden pallets, boxes and crates) imported into the U.S. from other countries. The new requirements specify that wood packaging material be either heat treated or fumigated with methyl bromide and marked with an approved international logo, certifying that the wood packaging material has been appropriately treated. Wood packaging material imported without the international logo after September 16 will be subject to re−exportation. Interceptions of nonnative pests, associated with wood packaging material, at U.S. ports of entry are increasing. If left unchecked, pests imported with wood packaging material could cause significant economic damage to the agricultural and forest resources of the U.S. To date, the costliest pest invasion associated with wood packaging material is the Asian longhorned beetle. The beetle, first discovered in New York City in 1996, in Chicago, IL, in 1998 and in Jersey City, NJ, in 2002, has resulted in the removal of thousands of trees and cost the state and federal governments nearly $168 million by the end of 2004.
Information about wood packaging enforcement:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/wpm/import.html.
Source: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/news/2005/09/wdpacmat_ppq.html

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Food Sector

18. *September 14, Food Production Daily* — **Syncronised data network signs up big food processors.** At a meeting ending Thursday, September 15, in Atlanta, food makers and other industry sectors are attempting to further iron out wrinkles in a global system to allow all parts of the supply chain to have syncronized, accurate, up−to−date information about products en route from factory to retailer. The non−profit EPCglobal Network system combines combines radio frequency identification (RFID) technology, existing communications network infrastructure and the Electronic Product Code (EPC), a number for uniquely identifying an item. The system is being built to help companies realize the value of data synchronization through the Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN). The syncronized system puts together already existing databases in place across North America, Europe and Asia and sets up a standard for accessing the information. A unified data system, would allow changes in information about product sizes, weight, name, price, classification, transport requirements and

volumes to be immediately transmitted along the supply chain. The aim is to create a single connected global network operating on the same standard. Currently, many of the regional databases in existence do not connect due to differing standards. About 4,000 companies worldwide have already signed on to develop the global system.
Source: http://www.foodproductiondaily.com/news/news−ng.asp?n=62503−data−syncronisation−epcglobal

19. *September 13, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **Food Safety and Inspection Service product recall report released.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service released Recall Notifcation Report 037−2005 Tuesday, September 13, for the following products produced September 7 and 8, 2005: a) Ten−pound boxes of "Enslin Quality Meats, Since 1924, A Family Tradition, Hickory Smoked Bacon"; b) Ten−pound boxes of "Enslin Quality Meats, Since 1924, A Family Tradition, Hickory Smoked, Fully Cooked Pork Smoked Sausage, Natural Hickory Smoke Flavor Added"; c) Ten−pound boxes of "Glendale Brand, Hickory Smoked Hot Sausage"; d) Ten−pound boxes of "Bowie River Swamp Hot Sausage Made With Chicken and Pork, Hickory Smoked." All products listed above bear the production code "250 05" and the establishment number, "EST. 31806" inside the USDA seal of inspection on each box. The products may be adulterated as a result of processing under insanitary conditions due to the company's water system being inadvertently compromised by Hurricane Katrina.
Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/FSIS_recalls/RNR_037_2005/index.asp

20. *September 13, Reuters* — **Oysters worldwide contaminated with norovirus.** According to research article published in the Journal of Medical Virology, one out of every 10 imported oysters screened in Hong Kong showed evidence of contamination with norovirus −− the term for Norwalk−like viruses that cause severe diarrhea and vomiting. Senior investigator Dr. Wilina W. L. Lim said, "it appears that oysters may be an important vehicle for introducing novel strains of norovirus." Lim's research group found that 10.5 percent of 507 samples of oysters from 11 countries tested on arrival were positive for norovirus genetic material. In particular, oysters from six countries were contaminated, while those from the remaining five countries were not. A wide variety of virus strains was found, including two novel types. "Given the popularity of consuming raw oysters in many countries, oysters may serve (as) a vehicle for the dissemination of new norovirus strains," Lim's group concludes. Norovirus screening was also conducted following 13 outbreaks of oyster−associated gastroenteritis in hotels or restaurants in Hong Kong. Norovirus sequences were detected in at least one oyster in six outbreaks. However, only in one outbreak was there a match between the strains isolated from patients and those found in the oysters.
Original abstract from the Journal of Medical Virology (Note: The full research article can be found on this site, but must be purchased):
http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi−bin/abstract/11054763 1/ABSTRACT
Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2005−09−13T192334Z_01_MCC369840_RTRIDST_0_HEALTH−OYSTERS−DC.XML

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Water Sector

21. *September 14, Associated Press* — **Water system repairs could take months.** A National Guard engineer says it will be at least three months before New Orleans' public water system is fully operational. Running water has been restored to some homes, but it's mostly untreated. The engineer says taking a bath right now is like jumping into the Mississippi River.
Source: http://www.katc.com/Global/story.asp?S=3841823

22. *September 13, Sun Herald (FL)* — **Water, sewer back online in most of South Mississippi.** On Monday, September 12, two weeks after hurricane Katrina hit, water and sewer services were available to the vast majority of homes and businesses that were still standing in Mississippi's three hardest–hit coastal counties, according to state, county, and municipal officials. A "boil–water" advisory is still in effect for drinking water. Water pressure is low in some places because of leaky pipes. And numerous wastewater lift stations –– where sewage is pumped through pipes that go uphill –– are temporarily operating with diesel–fueled bypass pumps. Raw sewage is no longer seeping up through manholes. And flushing is once again the norm in most places. Kamran Pahlavan, executive director of the Harrison County Wastewater and Solid Waste Management District, said that all 35 of his agency's lift stations were working. Most lift sites operated by municipalities are also back on line. "Now, Phase II is figuring out what parts we need to restore things to their original form," Pahlavan said. That will be another big challenge. Many electronic control panels were shredded by the storm. In Pass Christian, the lift station was destroyed and even underground pipes were damaged. In Biloxi, the wastewater treatment plant serving the eastern part of the city lost all of its electronic systems.
Source: http://www.bradenton.com/mld/bradenton/12634221.htm

23. *September 13, Associated Press* — **Supplies of drinking water readied.** Both private enterprise and government agencies are getting supplies of drinking water ready to distribute after Hurricane Ophelia hits North Carolina. The state has supplies of water in warehouses and National Guard troops have begun prepositioning those and other supplies at staging areas in eastern North Carolina. The brewer Anheuser–Busch is shipping more than 50–thousand cans of drinking water to be distributed by the Red Cross.
Source: http://www.wnct.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=WNCT/MGArticl e/NCT_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1031785044303

24. *September 06, Sandia National Laboratories* — **Sandia task force to study ways ocean and wastewater can be desalinized in California.** Researchers from the National Nuclear Security Administration's Sandia National Laboratories in coming months will be studying the best ways to desalinize –– and make potable ––– ocean water, subsurface brines, and wastewater. Among possibilities to be studied will be alternatives to disposing of waste –– extremely salty water –– after the desalination process. The waste could be dumped into the ocean, put in ponds for evaporation, or injected into the subsurface.
Source: http://www.sandia.gov/news–center/news–releases/2005/environ –waste–mgmt/desal.html

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Public Health Sector

25. *September 14, Agence France Presse* — **President Bush launches avian flu fight.** President George W. Bush launched a "new international partnership on avian influenza" in a bid to limit the scope of outbreaks and avoid a pandemic. "If left unchallenged, this virus could become the first pandemic of the 21st century. We must not allow that to happen," President Bush told the United Nations' General Assembly Wednesday, September 14. "I'm announcing a new international partnership on avian and influenza. The partnership requires countries that face an outbreak to immediately share information and provide samples to the World Health Organization," he said. "By requiring transparency, we can respond more rapidly to dangerous outbreaks and stop them on time. Many nations have already joined this partnership. We invite all nations to participate." The H5N1 strain of bird flu has killed more than 60 people in Asia since 2003.
White House Fact Sheet: http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/09/20050914−3.h tml
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050914/hl_afp/unsummitbushheal th_050914143205

26. *September 14, La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology* — **Scientists make finding on potential smallpox treatment.** Researchers at the La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology (LIAI) have made an advancement toward protecting society against a smallpox outbreak by identifying an antibody in humans that quickly fights the smallpox virus. Researchers discovered a protein in the smallpox virus −− the H3 protein −− that elicits a particularly strong human antibody response. Researchers studied blood samples from people who had received the smallpox vaccine. The researchers then tested their findings by creating a batch of the anti−H3 protein antibodies, which they injected into mice. The were able to protect them from a strain of vaccinia pox virus that is very similar to smallpox. One focus of their research will be to fully develop anti−H3 antibodies in the lab that can be given to humans. The smallpox virus has been the subject of intense research interest worldwide in the last several years, prompted by bioterrorism concerns. The virus was eradicated in the U.S. by 1950 and vaccinations for the general public were ended in 1972. But in the aftermath of 9−11, new concerns have arisen that the smallpox virus could be used as a bioterrorist agent. Unlike a vaccine, the antibody would work to provide immediate, although short−term protection, similar to how an antibiotic treats and for a short time protects against a bacterial infection.
Source: http://www.innovations−report.de/html/berichte/biowissenscha ften_chemie/bericht−49230.html

27. *September 13, Agence France Presse* — **Years of research ruined in Katrina flood.** As floodwaters swamped New Orleans, Louisiana's chief epidemiologist, Raoult Ratard, enlisted state police on a mission to break into a high−security government lab and destroy any dangerous germs before they could escape or fall into the wrong hands. Armed with bolt cutters and bleach, Ratard's team entered and killed all the living samples. At least Ratard's team was able to retrieve laptop computers containing vital scientific data. Many other scientists in the region weren't so fortunate, losing years of research, either through storm damage or voluntary destruction. Thousands of laboratory animals −− many genetically engineered with human diseases −− perished along with vital tissue samples thawed in abandoned labs. Important work on heart disease, cancer, AIDS, and a host of other ailments may be lost forever to scientists at Tulane and Louisiana State (LSU) universities' medical schools in New Orleans. LSU lost all of its 8,000 lab animals. About 300 federally funded projects at New Orleans colleges and universities worth more than $150 million −− including 153 projects at Tulane −− were affected

in some way, according to an initial survey by the National Institutes of Health. All the labs in Katrina's path that handle bioweapons defense research involving pathogens such as anthrax reported that their security wasn't compromised.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20050913/ap_on_he_me/katrina_lost _research;_ylt=Ah1eP.k4OM7uB4NAPW2m.2dZ24cA;_ylu=X3oDMTBiMW0 4NW9mBHNlYwMlJVRPUCUl

28. *September 12, Washington Post* — **CDC starts difficult task of recording hurricane's effects.** The full health consequences of Hurricane Katrina probably never will be known. The frantic effort to rescue and treat thousands of stranded survivors left little in the way of records describing their illnesses and injuries. The long−term health effects of the storm and flooding on the scattered evacuees will be chronicled in a hundred places and will be hard to document and analyze. Teams from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) fanned out across New Orleans last week, trying to find out what information was available and laying the groundwork to capture as much more as possible. The CDC hopes the area's working hospitals −− fewer than a half−dozen out of nearly 20 −− will use a one−page questionnaire to gather basic information on everyone who comes to the emergency room or is admitted. CDC epidemiologists will collect the data from the hospitals, analyze it once a week, and provide reports to the state and city health departments and the hospitals themselves. They will also go back and extract information from ER records to learn the pattern of illness and injury the event wrought. What is almost certainly lost to scientific analysis is information about the spectrum of illnesses treated by emergency medical teams in giant staging areas.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp−dyn/content/article/2005/09 /11/AR2005091101027.html

29. *September 12, Journal of Infectious Diseases* — **Less virulent avian influenza viruses also dangerous.** Researchers evaluated the potential for avian−to−human transmission of low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) and highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H7N1 and LPAI H7N3 viruses that were responsible for several outbreaks of influenza in poultry in Italy between 1999 and 2003. A serological survey of poultry workers was conducted by use of a combination of methods. Evidence of anti−H7 antibodies was observed in 3.8 percent of serum samples collected from poultry workers during the period in 2003 when LPAI H7N3 virus was circulating. These findings highlight the need for surveillance in people occupationally exposed to avian influenza viruses, so that they can be monitored for the risk of avian−to−human transmission during outbreaks of avian influenza caused by both LPAI and HPAI viruses.
Source: http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/JID/journal/issues/v192n8/3 4097/34097.html

30. *September 12, Purdue University* — **Harmless virus may aid in knocking out deadly bird flu.** A harmless virus used as a delivery vehicle may help set a roadblock for a potentially catastrophic human outbreak of bird flu, according to researchers at Purdue University and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Purdue molecular virologist Suresh Mittal and his collaborators are investigating a new way to provide immunity against avian influenza viruses, or bird flu, the most lethal of which, H5N1, has a 50 percent fatality rate in humans. Under a $1.6 million grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the researchers are focusing on using a harmless virus, called adenovirus, as a transmitting agent for a vaccine to fight off highly virulent strains of the avian influenza viruses. Current vaccines are designed for strains of flu found in local areas and are effective only as long as the virus

doesn't change form. Existing vaccines will have limited success against new strains of avian influenza, he said. Every time a bird flu mutates, vaccines must be redesigned. An additional important advantage to using an adenovirus as a vector, or transporter of vaccine into cells, is that is could be mass produced much more quickly than with current methods.
Source: http://news.uns.purdue.edu/UNS/html4ever/2005/050912.Mittal. birdflu.html

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.
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Emergency Services Sector

31. *September 14, Department of Homeland Security* — **U.S. Government response and recovery to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.** Federal support to state and local officials and volunteer organizations continues around the clock in an effort to save lives, sustain life, and assist with law enforcement operations in areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. The following facts provide an update to some of the important activities and approximate numbers as of 2 p.m. EDT Wednesday, September 14: a) Households funded: 465,000, b) Total assistance provided: $1 billion, c) People housed in shelters: 112,000, d) Meals–ready–to–eat (MREs) provided: 24.1 million, e) Water provided (liters): 61.3 million, f) Department of Energy Secretary Samuel W. Bodman announced that he approved bids for the sale of 11 million barrels of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, g) U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta announced Wednesday that Mississippi will immediately receive $5 million in federal emergency relief funding as a down payment on the repair or replacement of damaged roads and bridges throughout the state, and h) The Environmental Protection Agency issued an advisory Wednesday urging the public to continue to use caution when entering hurricane damaged homes and buildings.
Source: http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4805

32. *September 13, Government Computer News* — **Army seeks to improve communications with first responders.** The biggest challenge to communications operations in the Gulf region has been the use of disparate land mobile tactical radios. Officials say military services are excellent at setting up communications infrastructures in emergency situations for soldiers to communicate with other military personnel. But in homeland defense missions, such as Hurricane Katrina search–and–rescue efforts, the military also needs to communicate with first responders and needs an infrastructure that interfaces with all of the interagencies, according to Army Colonel Larry Klooster, who is functioning as the CIO of the J–6 for Joint Task Force Katrina. "When we're moving through the neighborhoods, we need to communicate with police and other authorities. All of us have these different radios," said Klooster. "The technology that we have has not been implemented to share information across these boundaries. It's not that we can't communicate, but we can communicate better." Klooster said the J–6 is working with the Department of Homeland Security, the state of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans to devise a plan to fix this. One of J–6's plans is to more heavily implement satellite phones, which can

be used by a number of agencies to communicate.
Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily−updates/36962−1.html

33. *September 12, WMC−TV (TN)* — **Tennessee leaders study whether state is prepared for major disaster.** State leaders are studying Tennessee's ability to cope with a huge disaster after witnessing the trouble caused by Hurricane Katrina. Tennessee has the potential for a big disaster along the New Madrid fault in the western part of the state. With the Mississippi River running next to Memphis, TN, Governor Phil Bredesen said he has to make sure the state is ready if catastrophe strikes. The fault crosses the Mississippi River in at least three places, escalating the chances for floods should a huge earthquake hit. The governor said the extent of what needs to be done, and the cost to prepare for this, are unknown. Experts say the New Madrid fault system is the greatest earthquake risk east of the Rocky Mountains −− and it runs through Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky and Tennessee. Earthquakes along the New Madrid fault are much rarer than in California −− but they are far more catastrophic when they do occur. U.S. Congressman Harold Ford, Jr. (D−TN) called on Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff Monday, September 12, to conduct a joint federal, state and local government exercise to prepare for a catastrophic earthquake along the New Madrid seismic zone.
Source: http://www.wmcstations.com/Global/story.asp?S=3838365

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

34. *September 13, Security Focus* — **Linksys WRT54G wireless router multiple remote vulnerabilities.** There have been multiple vulnerabilities found in the Linksys WRT54G router. In order to pentrate these vulnerabilities the attacker must have access to either the wireless, or internal LAN network segments of the affected device and exploitation from the WAN interface is only possible if the affected device has remote management enabled. This vulnerability allows for multiple issues that include executing arbitrary machine code in the context of the affected device and utilizing HTTP POST requests to upload router configuration and firmware files without proper authentication
Source: http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/14822/references

35. *September 13, Sun* — **Security vulnerability in Sun Java system application server exposes contents of "jar" file of deployed web applications.** There is a security vulnerability in Sun Java System Application Server Exposes Contents of "jar" File of Deployed Web Applications. The impact of this vulnerability may exploit the contents of the jar file. There are patches and upgrades available on the sun website.
Source: http://sunsolve.sun.com/search/document.do?assetkey=1−26−101 905−1

36. *September 13, FrSIRT* — **Apple security update fixes multiple java platform vulnerabilities.** There have been multiple vulnerabilities identified in Java on Apple Mac OS X. This could be exploited by remote or local attackers to bypass certain security restrictions, disclose sensitive information, or gain elevated privileges.
Source: http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/1734

37. *September 13, Government Technology* — **Utah and Maine lead all states in online government services, says new study.** According to the sixth annual e–government analyst conducted by Brown University Utah and Maine were rated at the top for online government services. The study also ranks the 50 states and various federal agencies on overall e–government performance. The analysis was done using measures such as online services, attention to privacy and security, disability access, and foreign language translation. The top ranking states include Utah, Maine, New Jersey, North Carolina, Michigan, Tennessee, Delaware, Massachusetts, Mississippi, and Nevada. The most poorly performing e–government states are Wyoming, Alaska, and Alabama. Top–rated federal Web sites include the White House, Department of State, Department of Treasury, Department of Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency, Social Security Administration, Housing and Urban Development Department, Federal Communications Commission, FirstGov (the U.S. portal), and Health and the Human Services Department. At the low end of the ratings are the various circuit courts of appeals.
Source: http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=96627

38. *September 13, Government Technology* — **National missing persons Website launched.** In the wake of Hurricane Katrina the National Institute for Urban Search and Rescue (NIUSR) has launched a Website aimed at facilitating the location of victims. The Website serves as a place where families and loved ones can identify those missing or known to be safe. Information about individuals missing and those confirmed safe will be posted on this website with the information periodically updated.
NIUSR Website: http://www.niusr.org
Source: http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=96602

39. *September 08, MSN* — **Backpack generates its own electricity .** As was published in the September 19 issue of the journal Science published by AAAS, the nonprofit science society. A new backpack design may offer a way for first responders to generate their own electricity for communications devices, night vision goggles, water purifiers or other portable electronics. In order to use this device the person wearing the backpack has to walk, or generate movement of the backpack. The backpack then converts the movement into electricity.
Source: http://msnbc.msn.com/id/9245155/

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US–CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US–CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US–CERT has received reports of multiple phishing sites that attempt to trick users into donating funds to fraudulent foundations in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. US–CERT warns users to expect an increase in targeted phishing emails due to recent events in the Gulf Coast Region.

Phishing emails may appear as requests from a charitable organization asking the users to click on a link that will then take them to a fraudulent site that appears to be a legitimate charity. The users are then asked to provide personal information that can further expose them to future compromises. Users are encouraged to take the following measures to protect themselves from this type of phishing attack: 1. Do not follow unsolicited web links received in email messages 2. Contact your financial institution immediately if you believe your account/and or financial information has been compromised US−CERT strongly recommends that all users reference the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site for a list of legitimate charities to donate to their charity of choice. For more information and current disaster updates please see URL: http://www.fema.gov/

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	6346 (gnutella−svc), 1026 (−−−), 6881 (bittorrent), 445 (microsoft−ds), 18829 (−−−), 3800 (−−−), 40000 (−−−), 139 (netbios−ssn), 135 (epmap), 25 (smtp)
	Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US−CERT at soc@us−cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us−cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it−isac.org/.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument &Icons Sector

40. *September 13, KCRA (CA)* — **State capitol adds new security system.** Four years after the September 11, 2001, attacks, plans to make the California state Capitol safer are showing signs of progress. A high−tech security system will be giving the Capitol a brand new look and will affect how all the politicians, state workers, and everyday visitors get into the building, according to officials. The Capitol grounds look different these days, with construction crews scrambling back and forth and large holes in the ground filled with concrete structures. It's part of a four million dollar security upgrade. Among the changes is a series of bollards that can be activated hydraulically. The changes have their roots in an attack that took place almost five years ago when a mentally disturbed trucker crashed his big rig into the Capitol's south entrance, causing $21 million in damage. After lawmakers rejected the idea of a fence, they settled on the bollards, which are solid posts, some connected with cables. In many respects, it's a copy of what's used in the nation's capital. In Washington, Bollards can be lowered for emergency and delivery access. The same is true of Sacramento's system.
Source: http://www.kcra.com/news/4969661/detail.html

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General Sector

Nothing to report.
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DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

[DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport) – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open−source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport

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Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983−3644.
Subscription and Distribution Information:	Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983−3644 for more information.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282−9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US−CERT at soc@us−cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us−cert.gov.

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